

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

1. Amends claims 7 and 8 to moot the rejection under 35 USC §112, 2nd paragraph.
2. Amend independent claims 7, 8, and 19.
3. Respectfully traverse all prior art rejections.

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Independent claims 7 and 8 have been amended to specify, e.g., a controlling of the apparatus to be controlled using control information selected on the basis of identification information. Similarly, independent claim 19 has been amended to recite the act of using, at the controlling apparatus, control information selected on the basis of the identification information to control the apparatus to be controlled. These amendments are supported, e.g., by page 26, lines 5 to 14 of the specification, portions of which are reproduced below with emphasis as now supplied:

the connection unit 15 receives the identification information (S 104), the manufacturer, the type, and the model of the apparatus to be controlled 20 identified with the received identification information are specified (S 105), a driver corresponding to the specified manufacturer, type, and model is selected (S 106), and the selected driver is installed (S 107).

The installation of the driver mentioned here indicates that such a state is established that the apparatus to be controlled 20 can be controlled when the selected driver is executed on the basic software of the controlling apparatus 10.

C. PATENTABILITY OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 7-8 and 19-29 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication 2003/0184784 to Ferlitsch. All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicants' specification describes, e.g., a control system in accordance with an interface standard such as USB having a plug-and-play function. Applicants' disclosed subject matter automatically accommodates a change or addition of an apparatus to be controlled by controlling apparatus, even in the situation that a connection between the controlling apparatus and the apparatus to be controlled is maintained intact, but a specification change is made such as new connection of an attached device to the apparatus to be controlled or a change in firmware recorded in the apparatus to be controlled.

Claims 7 and 8, as amended, recite features such as "obtaining, from a memory, changed identification information which is modified with the specification of the attached device for identifying the specification of the apparatus to be controlled", "transmitting the changed identification information from the apparatus to be controlled to the controlling apparatus", and "the controlling apparatus for controlling the apparatus to be controlled, using control information selected on the basis of the identification information". Amended independent claim 19 similarly includes the act of using, at the controlling apparatus, control information selected on the basis of the identification information to control the apparatus to be controlled.

In rejecting Applicants' claims, the office action alleges:

- "computer 42" of Ferlitsch corresponds to "apparatus to be controlled" of Claim 7,

- "printer driver source 46" corresponds to "controlling apparatus" of Claim 7,
- "printer device 44" corresponds to "device attached to the apparatus to be controlled" of Claim 7, and
- "driver information" of Ferlitsch corresponds to "identification information for identifying a specification of the apparatus to be controlled" of Claim 7.

Based on these allegations, the office action further alleges:

(A) paragraph 46 of Ferlitsch shows "the main entry object determines that the driver is to be updated and the new features are the upgraded modified version of the driver downloaded from the printer driver source", which corresponds to "obtaining, from a memory, changed identification information which is modified with the specification of the attached device for identifying the specification of the apparatus to be controlled" of Claim 7,

(B) paragraph 46 of Ferlitsch shows "a request is made, based on what is to be updated, from the computer device", which corresponds to "transmitting the changed identification information from the apparatus to be controlled to the controlling apparatus" of Claim 7.

Applicants vigorously traverse the allegations of the office action, as applied not only to independent claim 7 but to other independent claims as well. The ensuing traversal arguments, although primarily referencing independent claim 7, are applicable to independent claim 8 and (at least in part) to other independent claims as well.

In Claim 7, the obtained "information" as described in allegation (A) and the transmitted "information" as described in allegation (B) are one in the same. This "information" is identical to "the changed identification information". Thus, in Claim 7,

for example, the obtained "changed information" is transmitted from the "apparatus to be controlled" to the "controlling apparatus".

However, in Ferlitsch, the downloaded "information" as described in allegation (A) is not same as the "information" as described in allegation (B). Thus, the "upgraded modified version of the driver" is not identical to the "request". This means that, in Ferlitsch, the downloaded "upgraded modified version of the driver" is not transmitted from the "computer 42" to the "printer driver source 46".

Therefore, the allegations of the office action are contradictory. In fact, Ferlitsch does not disclose "obtaining, from a memory, changed identification information which is modified with the specification of the attached device for identifying the specification of the apparatus to be controlled" and "transmitting the changed identification information from the apparatus to be controlled to the controlling apparatus". Thus, Ferlitsch does not disclose at least these aspects of claims 7, 8, and 19, for example.

Moreover, independent claims 7 and 8 recite a feature "the controlling apparatus for controlling the apparatus to be controlled, using control information selected on the basis of the identification information". In Claim 7, this "identification information" is changed according to "the specification of the attached device". Thus, this feature means that the controlling apparatus controls the apparatus to be controlled according to the control information, and this control information is selected on the basis of the identification information which is changed according to the specification of the attached device. Independent claim 19 similarly includes the act of using, at the controlling apparatus, control information selected on the basis of the identification information to control the apparatus to be controlled.

On the other hand, Ferlitsch relates to updating a printer driver automatically and discloses a change of configuration of a dynamic printer driver obtained by a computer device and used to print a document (e.g. FIG. 2, FIG. 3, [00381]). Ferlitsch discloses automatically changing contents of the driver to be installed, but does not disclose changing "the identification information for identifying a specification of the apparatus to be controlled". In short, Ferlitsch does not disclose "the controlling apparatus for controlling the apparatus to be controlled, using control information selected on the basis of the identification information".

D. MISCELLANEOUS

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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